

For Information Contact Public Affairs ANN HARWOOD Telephone: (602) 514-7737

Cell: (602) 809-3683

TWO WOMEN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR SMUGGLING CHILDREN INTO THE U.S.

TUCSON, Ariz. – Danitza Yvette Andrade-Leal, 25, of Nogales, Arizona, was sentenced here to 25 months in prison, and two years of supervised release, by U.S. District Judge John M. Roll. Andrade-Leal had pleaded guilty on January 31, 2006, to conspiring to transport an illegal alien.

In an unrelated case, Blanca Estela Montejano, 25, of Nogales Sonora, Mexico, was sentenced Tuesday to 15 months in prison and two years of supervised release, by U.S. District Judge Frank R. Zapata. Montejano pleaded guilty on May 3, 2006, to conspiring to transport an illegal alien.

On November 21, 2005, Andrade-Leal presented herself for admission into the United States at the port of entry in Nogales, Arizona. She was accompanied by an 18 month child who she claimed was her nephew. Andrade-Leal claimed that both she and the child were U.S. citizens. Further investigation revealed that the child was a Mexican citizen, and that Andrade-Leal was to receive \$700.00 to smuggle the infant into the United States.

On January 30, 2006, Montejano also presented herself for admission into the United States at the port of entry in Nogales, Arizona. Montejano was accompanied by an 8 year old child who she claimed was her daughter. Montejano claimed that both she and the child were U.S. citizens. Further investigation revealed that the child was a Mexican citizen, and that Montejano was to receive \$500.00 to smuggle the child into the U.S.

The investigation in both cases was conducted by Customs and Border Protection, Nogales, of the Department of Homeland Security. The prosecutions were handled by Cynthia R. Wood, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz..

CASE NUMBER: CR-05-2385 (Andrade-Leal)

CR-06-0431(Montejano)

RELEASE NUMBER: 2006-125(Andrade-Leal&Montejano)